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HARTWOOD

POLITICIAN.



NUMBER ONE—FIRST SERIES;

BEING THE FIRST NUMBER OF A SERIES OF PAMPHLETS INTENDED
TO ILLUSTRATE THE

PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

AND

PUBLIC LAW.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1853,

By WILLIAM J. CLOWES.

in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States, in and for
the Southern District of New York.

POUGHKEEPSIE:

1853.

PREFACE. F121 N7C6

Although the publication of the second number of the *Hartwood Politician*, has been postponed more than three years after the appearance of the first number, I have, notwithstanding this lapse of time, concluded to put the two numbers in one dress as far as it may be done, in order that a uniformity may be established between all the numbers of the work. The first number of the first series of the *Hartwood Politician*, is, therefore, presented to the public, with four additional pages; and, with this addition, is offered to its patrons with the same objects and intentions, that its author professed to have in view, when first published in the beginning of the year, 1850.

Although my objects and intentions in relation to public improvements in general, have undergone no change since the publication of my original number, yet the field in which I therein proposed publicly to operate, has been subjected to great alterations: the Hasbrouck property, spoken of therein, has since been so far changed, as scarcely to be known as the "old Washington Head Quarters." A change which, although much to be regretted, may still be converted into a public benefit, by showing by means thereof, the impolicy and injury of endeavoring through the instrumentality of State officers, and legislative authority, to preserve any thing like a proper respect for the sacred mementoes of the past. It is my intention, therefore, in some future number or numbers of my work, to recommend that the Hasbrouck House, in the State of New York, should be restored to the possession of the private individual who is now its claimant, to be held by him and his heirs, for the same purposes that I would recommend that the Mount Vernon estate, in the State of Virginia, should continue to be held by its present legal owner and his heirs.

With respect to the Fort De Witt farm, I would say, that, although this property has changed hands, yet it may still be purchased; but as it has long been out the possession of the De Witt family, there can of course be no impropriety in proposing that this property should be held by the public, through means of the system of self supporting schools, recommended in the annexed number: it is my intention, therefore, to renew my proposition for the public purchase of the Fort De Witt estate; I do not intend to recommend, however, that the State shall hold this property as it has undertaken to hold the Hasbrouck House, by an agent, as I consider that the State of New York has no more right to appoint an agent to keep this house, than the State of Maine has a right to appoint agents to sell rum.

HARTWOOD POLITICIAN.

NUMBER I.

In presenting the first number of the Hartwood Politician to the public, I had concluded to republish certain articles, which have, within a period of two or three months past, appeared in the Newburgh Gazette. One of the objects of my proposed work is to offer to the American public some views in relation to the preservation of ancient mementoes, and I cannot, as far as the same extends, do any better than to offer them in the form in which they originally appeared; and the subject of self-supporting schools referred to in these articles, is so much connected with the matter that is to close my present number, that I feel as if I had no alternative but to reproduce them. In taking my own observations from a country paper, I ought not to render myself liable to a charge of republication; for, unfortunately for the country at large in these days of telegraphs and penny papers, matters that are published by the country press, might as well be considered, so far as they affect the busy, bustling part of the community, as not published at all; and I shall therefore feel as little hesitation in offering my remarks to the consideration of the good people of Newburgh and its neighborhood, as if nothing of the kind had appeared in any one of their papers. In regard to ancient mementoes as they now exist among us, all that I would now say is, that although there seems to be a widely extended disposition in our country, to build expensive monuments to the memory of departed worth, yet little has appeared, so far as I can learn, that regulates or directs the manner by which such disposition ought to be gratified. Whoever undertakes to establish correct notions upon this subject in our country, will find his work a difficult one, on account of there being no acknowledged first principles in existence among us, by which the propriety of such matters should be determined. A high monument and other much more exceptionable appendages to the property known as Washington's Head Quarters in the village of Newburgh having been proposed as suitable additions thereto, I wrote the following articles in order to give some indication of what I considered proper principles, that should be applied not only to the venerated property spoken of, but also to any other place or property in our country that has its time-hallowed associations to recommend it. It will be seen by reference to the following numbers, that no very favorable opinion has been entertained of a proposed act of our Legis-

lature in relation to Washington's Head Quarters in the village of Newburgh; and lest the remarks in relation thereto may be supposed to extend to the law enacted since, I have thought proper to observe that the proposed act referred to and the one actually passed are essentially different in some of their provisions; and that consequently my remarks ought not to apply to the act that now stands upon our statute book. I intend to resume my remarks upon this branch of my subject at no distant period, and in the mean time would present my letters to Mr. Callihan, editor of the Newburgh Gazette, on account of their connection with the subject of self-supporting schools.

MR. CALLAHAN:—I forward to you a communication relating to a subject of importance, not only to the citizens of Newburgh, but to the public at large; and feeling authorised to refer to it as a matter of the greatest interest, have ventured to address you under my own name, in order to give to the topic under consideration a greater earnestness of personal conviction, than would be presented by an anonymous correspondent.

If it is conceded, that anything that refines public manners, that improves the public taste, that enlivens and invigorates the love of country which exists in some degree in the minds of all, is necessarily a subject of importance, and should be made a subject of general interest; then it will be unnecessary to prove that the deep solicitude which has been recently manifested in our State relative the house and grounds in your village, known as Washington's Head Quarters, is worthy to be directed to its most useful, and at the same time to its most hallowed purposes, by every influence which can be made properly to guide the feelings of both the prudent and the patriotic.

In making an estimate of the value and utility of the property in question, we are not to be guided by anything which is ever subject to the fluctuations of our markets; for the property can never be made the subject of ordinary speculation with any more propriety than the tables of the money changers could be made part and parcel of the equipments of the Jewish Temple; nor can any of its materials combustible, as some of them are, be made the subject of insurance; for we cannot insure that, which when destroyed, can never be replaced, or appraise that which no tariff or schedule of prices has any expression that gives it a mark of any definite value.

The property in question has its value in the minds of the whole American people; of increasing importance, because like other sacred

mementoes of the past, that are sinking from our view, its decaying materials become of greater worth, as increasing millions arise around us, to appreciate and enjoy it; the people of Newburgh located as this valuable property is among them, should consider themselves as trustees for the other part of our people, not only to preserve this property unimpaired in appearance, but to preserve its utility to the latest generation.

As an individual who has strongly participated in all the interest which has been manifested, not only of late, but for many years past, for the preservation of this valuable property; and who is desirous of transmitting its utility unimpaired to other times and other days, I have transcribed certain observations from an unpublished work of my own, which may intimate in some degree, in what way this apparently dilapidated, and to some an altogether useless establishment, may be made subservient to the noblest purposes.

"Any one," says the author, "who has visited Washington's Head Quarters, at Newburgh, will remember that the house in itself presents one of the rudest of our old forms of domestic architecture; had it been an old tavern or the residence of some person, whom we cared nothing about, we should consider it a very foolish thing to make any ado about such an old building; but a solitary and only visit once made to the place some years ago on a lonely summer's afternoon, has convinced us of the value there is in old and rude forms, when they are connected with old and valued substances; our imagination we have never considered very vivid, as we have not the least spark of what some people call sentiment, nor is our historical memory by any means the strongest, yet the moment that we took our seat under the porch of that old house, when all, that ever gave life to the scene, seemed at once to start up to our view; and we are confident while we were there, that more images of the past came up before us in an hour, than we could have got hold of by a month's reading at any other time; nor have we forgotten in the lapse of time, the vividness of our impressions, and seldom it is, that we read, or hear of any person whose position in the revolutionary struggle was such, as to associate him with this spot, but he becomes connected in our mind, with that old stone house; the occupant of the house showed us a very plain and a very humble looking old chair, not intrinsically in our estimation, worth eighteen pence, that once belonged, as he said, to Lady Washington; but whether the chair was ever dignified by having such an owner or not we did not take the trouble to investigate; but of one thing we are certain, that the best picture of old fashioned patriotism, at its domestic altar that we know of, is one in which that same old chair, and Lady Washington and the Father of his country form the principal traits."

The above remarks are quoted from a series of observations of the same character, the tendency of which is to show as a matter of private concern, how much value there is in every old house, even of the rudest workmanship, that has been dignified and adorned by paternal and filial affection; it has its analogies in the public sentiment, so far as causes every place in our land that ever has been honored as the residence of Washington, to be looked at with all the filial reverence that could be extended by the love of a child to a departed parent; as such the property spoken of, should not be connected with any incongruous accompaniment that prevents the visitor from imagining for a season, at least, that he is living in an age far different from the bustling world around him. It is therefore suggested, that it would be more appropriate to furnish Washington's Head Quarters with the old chair and other forms of the kind, that connect it with the day of its greatest glory, than to attach to it anything that reminds us of modern improvement or invention; it is suggested also that it would be highly consistent with its greatest utility to embower it with evergreens, except on the part that looks out on the noble Hudson, and on the everlasting hills that bound the prospect, (coeval, we trust with the memory of Washington) that thereby the visitor may receive those permanent impressions from his visit which can never perhaps be profitably enjoyed, unless seclusion or at least silence allows the imagination to renew its noblest attributes over a scene which doubtless again and again has met the ardent observation of the Father of his country.

I propose in an additional number to show in what manner the above intimations may be carried out; and they will be offered with the full knowledge that the property has passed into the possession of the State, and that all final action with respect thereto, must be had in another place rather than in your village; there is no doubt, however, that the Legislature of the State will look for suggestions and for co-operation from the citizens of Newburgh, and the remarks herewith and hereafter presented will be offered in no spirit of dictation; but merely to direct the attention of your citizens towards a proper examination of the whole subject, as their voice unquestionably will have its proper influence when exerted in a manner which may show the importance of the trust, which from all parts of the State no doubt will be promptly conceded to them.

Respectfully yours,

WM. J. CLOWES.

MR. CALLAHAN:—In a communication dated the 21st of last month, relating to the property in your village, known as the Washington Head Quarters, I proposed to send additional matter, which would show, in

what way, the suggestions previously offered, could be practically carried out; in endeavoring to fill this proposal, I am aware, that in the discussion of every subject of general interest, there are always too many opinions to be consulted, to allow of any hope for a common concurrence, in favor of any one measure; and instead of attempting to present any suggestions, that may meet the views of all, I shall only offer such considerations, as interest those of your inhabitants, who are, or ought to be, most deeply interested in the growth and prosperity of your place. It may, at first view, be deemed a reflection upon the patriotism of your place, to present interested considerations, in connection with a subject, which of all others, is generally supposed, to have no relationship with interested feelings of any kind; but, knowing as most of the readers of your paper unquestionably do, that a proper self-interest in an individual, is altogether consistent with man's highest duty and obligation on earth, I do not hesitate to connect the welfare of your place, and the personal interest of each of its inhabitants, with a subject which is commonly presented only in connection with our ideas of the most widely extended patriotism. The inhabitants of your place, having lived as many of them have done from their infancy, in the vicinity of Washington's Head Quarters, cannot from the nature of their mental constitution, which they have in common with the rest of mankind, entertain the same feelings of deep veneration for this property, which others may do, who seldom, or but once in their lives have visited it; and in forming an estimate of its value, your people ought rather therefore to look at the views of others who live at a distance, or refer to sentiments which they themselves entertain, while on a visit to some distant part of our country, equally honored as their own, by revolutionary remisciences. By this process, I am confident that if every individual of mature age, and sound consideration, in your place, was consulted as to the manner in which Mount Vernon should be preserved for the benefit of future generations, he would arrive at a result similar to that which I have submitted in my former communication, in respect to Washington's Head Quarters in your place. Although too familiar with the place, to regard it with the solemnity which persons less accustomed to view it, would look at it, your respect for the feelings of others, will undoubtedly induce you to clothe it in the venerated forms, with which civilized man in every part of the globe, is now accustomed to associate with the character and merits of Washington; and if you can make your regard for the feelings and duties of others consistent with your interest, I see no reason why you may not profit by your opportunity, when benefits having no connection with selfishness or injustice, can be made to grow out of it. My idea of the most valuable kind of American charity has been and is, that it should be made to pay at least six

per cent interest, and I can easily reconcile the best of Newburgh patriotism with a yearly return of not less than seven per cent, as long as the law of our State justifies it, and the object of the investment is equally honorable and proper. The most effective mode which I can recommend for a proper use of the property in question is, to place it in the secluded position which has been recommended, and to have no appendages either in or about the house that would be inconsistent with its genuine appearance in the day of its greatest glory; the expense of this, as well as the expense of evergreen trees and shrubbery to surround it, on all sides except in front, would be but a trifle. I would then place the property in charge of an association or corporation, whose duty it should be to connect therewith, a school for the education of young persons of both sexes, in those arts of design which have been considered necessary in every civilized country for the immediate promotion of mechanics and architecture, and as auxiliary to the arts of painting and sculpture; such a school if worthy of any encouragement at all, ought to be made to pay its own way, and could be carried into operation by making its first expenses into a permanent fund, paying legal interest forever: and by making such schools general through our land, and connecting their location with scenes of similar interest to those afforded by Washington's Head Quarters at Newburgh, we cannot fail to place American art upon its own natural and legitimate foundation; and instead of exhibiting as we too often do, so many more sickly imitations of European prototypes that bring neither respect from home or attraction from abroad, we could at least show hereafter to the world, that we intend to place our claims to a national taste upon the same broad ground that we have claimed for ourselves, a national character. Boys and girls attached to such an institution, even if not older than 9 or 10 years of age, could best take their first lessons in their art by acting as guides or companions to strangers and others who might be induced to visit our most attractive localities; and in this way with but little expense, by combining all in your neighborhood, that might interest the tourist, with all that is most attractive in your old stone house, you might call from abroad hundreds, if not thousands of persons, who, without proper facilities being afforded to enable them to visit your place, might be forever debarred from the advantages which from a proper contemplation of the sublime and beautiful scenery about you, they cannot fail to receive; how much money, could be brought to your place, by a proper use of your advantages, it is unnecessary for me to calculate, even if I were capable of doing so; it certainly would have been improper for me to allude to any interested consideration in connection with the subject before us, if I were not aware that the greatest obstacle in the way of Washington's Head Quarters being made of fu-

turo benefit to our country, arises from the existence of a too common belief, that the value of patriotism is better known by its sacrifices than by its benefits; and on that account when we build up anything which is intended to be kept sacred to the memory of departed worth, we would rather throw away our money upon some crumbling specimen of Egyptian monstrosity or Grecian absurdity, than to make use of that, which taste, propriety and utility will always make honorable and commendable. It has been my intention for some time past to make self-supporting schools the subject of some observations, which I intend to place before the public. I have concluded to exhibit one of the forms in which a school of this kind could be properly introduced into your place, and not only support itself, but carry out another object also of equal importance, without the tax of a dollar upon you, either individually or collectively; there is vacant room enough around the property spoken of to allow of buildings to be erected for schools, without in any way interfering with the privacy or seclusion which it has been contended, it would be always necessary to keep about the main edifice therein; and it is highly probable that if there was an assurance placed before the Legislature that this building should always be kept for its most proper purpose, that a grant upon this condition would be freely given. It is therefore respectfully suggested that an application be made to the Legislature of our State, suggesting the propriety of a conveyance of the aforesaid property to the corporation of the village of Newburgh, to be held by them subject to all the conditions and trusts which the importance and value of this property should require at their hands.

Respectfully yours,

WM. J. CLOWES

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MR. CALLAHAN:—In a communication (dated the 20th of last month,) in relation to Washington's Head Quarters, in your village, I proposed that this property should be placed in the hands of an association or corporation, whose duty it should be to connect therewith, a school for the instruction of young persons, of both sexes, in the various arts of design, which are connected with mechanics, architecture, painting and sculpture. I suggested also, that such school could be made to support itself; and not only pay its own expenses, but also a yearly interest upon the principal cost of the property, wherein it should be located; and I would now give an outline of the manner in which such institution could be carried into effect according to the plan proposed.

Before setting forth this plan, I would observe that I have just read the draft of a law proposed for legislative enactment in relation to the subjects treated of, in one of the branches of the Legislature



of our State ; and believing that the views taken by the proposer of the law, are altogether inconsistent with the main object, intended to be secured by its preservation, I feel it my duty to intimate in what way, these views are erroneous ; we want, in my estimation, the old house, and its old furniture, and nothing else ; for any intermixture of modern art or improvement with the substantial relics of the past, would give such an air of absurdity to the whole, that I believe every person of true taste, in our country, would rather see the whole building completely demolished, than to see it accompanied with the alterations and additions recommended in the proposed law. In addition to a high monument, I have heard that an iron railing to surround the ground, has also been proposed ; a rough stone wall in my opinion would be preferable, as it would be more in keeping with the building than any other kind of fence ; and this addition together with the enclosure of evergreens as recommended in my former communications, is about all the ornament that should be allowed upon the grounds. For the same reasons that I would condemn any incongruous addition, I would recommend the removal of all fancy paper, or other additions to the interior of the building, that was not there at the time of the Revolution ; the appearance of the walls and ceiling as they existed when occupied by Washington should be restored as far as it is possible now to be done. Association and imagination, being the qualities of the mind which are addressed by these remains of the past, he who visits this house, and carries nothing better with him to furnish it, than can be provided by a modern paint shop, or furniture store, would do much better to have remained at home ; for he can receive no good from his visit, and is only in the way of those who are desirous of profiting by the few objects of antiquity that yet remain among us.

My views, in relation to the old houses of our country, have taken their bent from the studies of past years, connected with the subject of American architecture. I have come to the opinion, that nothing will give to our national taste, its true direction, but to cultivate a disposition to preserve the mementoes of the past ; and to show definitely, in what way my suggestions may be practically, and I hope profitably adopted by your citizens, I would state, that about thirty-five miles west from the village of Newburgh, as the road runs, there is a point, as may be seen from the map of Orange and Sullivan Counties, where a vast trade from the vallies of the Mongaup and Neversink rivers can be made to centre ; the farm upon which the point of intersection occurs, is a farm known as the Fort De Witt Farm ; and independently of its value, on account of the business which may be done upon it, it has associations connected with the French, and Revolutionary wars, that alone make it a place of great interest. These

subjects are treated of, in the history of Orango County, published by Mr. Eager, your present Post Master. Mr. Eager states, that the old stone house, on this property, was the birth-place of De Witt Clinton ; and such I know has been the uniform belief in my own neighborhood, among our oldest inhabitants, for many years ; there are, however, two other places in Orango County, which have been claimed as the birth-place of this distinguished individual, but which is the true one I would not at this time attempt to decide ; if the facts, however, as set forth by Mr. Eager's History, and corroborated by everybody in the neighborhood of the Fort De Witt farm, are not true, as regards the birth-place of De Witt Clinton, we certainly ought, at no time, to depend upon the truth of traditionary history. The building spoken of, from its substantial character, is no mean emblem of Gov. Clinton's fame, and may, with an occasional new roof, and a proper regard for its preservation, continue to exist for the next thousand years, in as good a condition as it has been for the last hundred ; the present building was put up during, or shortly after, the French war ; the first floor being supported by charred beams, which are remains of the old block house, or fort, burned by the Indians, during that war. This property, together with the Hasbrouck House, I would recommend should be placed in the charge of one person, who, with his successors, should be a trustee, or corporation sole, to manage the property and conduct the several branches of business, which ought to be connected with it, in order to make the whole a self-supporting institution. The fee of the property might remain in the state, or in the persons who should advance the means for the purchase thereof ; or, it could be conveyed in fee to the corporation or trustee, subject to the condition of paying a yearly sum thereon, which should be equivalent to the legal state interest. I would prefer (subject to the strictest scrutiny and accountability to a permanent board of visitors,) that the managing head of such institution, should be but one person ; as by that means, I would remove all grounds for mismanagement, growing out of the kind of divided authority, which too often mars the efficiency of many of our joint stock associations ; it being my intention to make the subject of self-supporting schools the ground of an application to the Congress of the United States, I do not consider it, at the present time, necessary to set forth the particular details by which the property herein referred to, can be made as effective for the purposes intended as I have intimated ; to the application I am about to make, I would, however, respectfully ask the attention of such of the inhabitants of Newburgh, as have leisure to examine its merits, as I am confident that a deliberate examination on their part will amply repay them for the time which they may give to the subject ; inasmuch as the plans proposed for their particular consideration will



extend not only to the means by which the venerated properties referred to, can be best preserved, and to means by which self-supporting schools can be extensively adopted, but may be made to extend to a cheap and effective system of internal communication with the whole country west of them; the cost of such means of communication being much less, and the utility much greater, than can be ever afforded by the now much praised system of plank roads.

Respectfully yours,

W. J. CLOWES.

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MR. CALLAHAN: In my last communication in relation to Washington's Head Quarters, in your village, I stated that it was my intention to make the subject of self-supporting schools the ground of an application to Congress; in part fulfilment of my intention, I have forwarded an application to the member of Congress from this district, for an enquiry to be made concerning certain improved modes of building, which I am desirous of submitting to the consideration of that body and the public at large. I have not alluded in this application to the connection which exists between these subjects, and the kind of schools to which reference has been made, as I supposed, that it was sufficient for the purpose of securing attention to the suggested improvements, to state their immediate advantages, without going into a detail of benefits, which might be considered as incidental and prospective only. I intend, however, to carry my application far enough to make it fully consistent with the purpose already expressed; and in order to accomplish this end, have concluded to publish a series of essays, in which the subject of self-supporting schools and other subjects of like utility, will be examined at sufficient length to give not only Congress, but the whole country, if they wish it, ample opportunity of judging of their merits and efficiency. I have made the above remarks on account of my having requested, in the communication referred to, that the attention of a portion of the inhabitants of Newburgh should be given towards my proposed application; to enable them more fully to comply with the request, in a manner which will enable them to decide whether any of my propositions can be made to tend to their benefit, I shall publish in the first number of the proposed series, the memorial or petition upon which my application is at present founded; and shall then offer such practical suggestions as I consider most applicable to the condition of Newburgh and its neighborhood.

I send you the prospectus of my proposed work, which I would thank you to publish with this communication.

Respectfully yours,

W. J. CLOWES.

## PROSPECTUS OF THE HARTWOOD POLITICIAN.

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The subscriber having recently made an application to Congress concerning certain improvements in building, which he has for several years past been employed in maturing, has thought it necessary to set forth to the public, the reasons and objects which have induced him to make such application; and for that purpose has concluded to commence the publication of a series of tracts or pamphlets under the name of the Hartwood Politician. This designation has been assumed because it gives the subscriber's residence, and indicates also that the important subject of political economy, will form the basis of the proposed work; it is intended after the publication of a few numbers, to convert the work into a monthly periodical, and in anticipation that the public will approve of such a course the subscriber intends to put his first essays in the garb of a periodical although not strictly entitled in the outset, to appear in that character.

The proposed works will have nothing to do with any abstract or abstruse science; the subscriber wishing in the first place, to induce a belief that his mechanical and mathematical suggestions, are worthy of all the attention that he has claimed for them; and in the second place to make this belief when attained, of practical advantage to the public by putting into immediate operation, every thing in the way of invention which he has at any time proposed to do. The above mentioned application to Congress, proposes to exhibit for examination certain modes of building, by which fire proof houses, ships and other vessels, railroads and their appurtenances, can be better and much more cheaply built than by any plans or systems now in use; it also proposes to exhibit a means of engineering and mathematical calculation, equally cheap and effective in its way, for all purposes of railroad surveying, or for the execution of architectural and naval designs; the main design in setting forth these things for the consideration of Congress is to exhibit to that body, as well as to our country at large, a means by which that clause in our general constitution, which authorizes the establishment of post offices and post roads, can be cheaply and yet most extensively carried into execution without increasing the duties or responsibility of the general government or infringing in any manner upon the rights or powers of the several states. The ways and means by which this may be accomplished, will be briefly illustrated in the first number of the projected work.

Part of the means which will be recommended for the above purpose will consist of a system of self supporting schools. This system, if established, will proceed from opinions long entertained that the women of our country should have more to say and much more to do, with all our modes of education, than our laws and customs will now permit; and that justice and humanity require that we should consult the feelings of our children oftener than we do, before we subject them to any course of discipline to which stern necessity rather than their will makes them obedient. The attention of women of all ages and of children ten years of age and upwards, is therefore particularly requested, towards self supporting schools, as by them it may be seen that the business of education now so formidable, may become a matter not worth talking about, when it gets into the hands of those whose main business in life it is to give and to receive instruction.

The numbers will be sold at twelve and a half cents each; and subscriptions will be asked only for the first of the series, as it is presumed that the practical character of the matter set forth in this number, will secure the continuance of the work without farther solicitation.

WILLIAM J. CLOWES.

Hartwood, N. Y. April 6th, 1850.

The memorial referred to is as follows :

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives.

The memorial of the undersigned, an inhabitant of the town of Forestburgh, in the county of Sullivan, and State of New York, respectfully represents :

That he has for many years been engaged in the manufacture of building timber, and has been led by the nature of his business, and the facilities afforded by a long residence in a timbered country, to devote much of his time to a close investigation of the nature and properties of wood ; and that he has by an extended series of practical tests, arrived at certain conclusions with respect to timber, and other building materials, which, on account of their connection, as he has been led to suppose with the public welfare, he feels it to be his duty to present to the consideration of your honorable body.

That your memorialist believes that with respect to durability, efficiency and expense, a great improvement in all kinds of buildings in which wood or timber composes a principal part, can be effected by the substitution of small timber in the place of large ; that timber of large size, besides its other disadvantages, being very liable to be affected by an incipient concealed rot, which often escapes the most practiced scrutiny, your memorialist considers it not only necessary that small timbers should be brought into general use, but that the business of getting out the same in the forest should be confined to persons whose knowledge of wood will allow them, not only to select that which is sound, but also to adapt it to the particular use for which it is known to be of the most value.

That your memorialist is of opinion that by a proper selection and use of small timber, that ships and other vessels, houses, railroads, docks and bridges can be built much stronger and much cheaper than by the ordinary modes ; and in order to show the correctness of this opinion, he proposes to submit to the examination of a committee to be appointed by your honorable body, three several plans or modes of building, by which the great advantages of small timber over timbers of large size, can as he believes be clearly exhibited.

The first is a mode by which fire-proof buildings, both for city and country, can be built at a general expense not exceeding one half required by our present system of perishable and combustible erections. The advantages of this mode of building arise mainly from the small pieces of wood and timber composing the floors and roof, being covered and buried in earthy matters or cement, while in a soft and plastic state ; and when such soft matter becomes hard and dry, and forms with the wood and its fastenings, one solid mass of material, the surface thereof is then hardened in such way as will best adapt it

to the peculiar use or wear which is to be applied to it; by substituting iron in the place of the wood used according to the above plan, security against robbery as well as against fire can also be made certain.

The second is a mode by which a railway of small pieces of timber, compacted together in a manner that removes almost all tendency to jar or vibration, can be made a means of public communication through our country, at an expense not exceeding that of our ordinary highways. The cars adapted to this kind of railway being made to turn upon short curves, the expense of grading therefor, compared to that required for other railroads, need be but small. By means of a rope set in motion by water or other stationary power, a cheap and at the same time a rapid transportation of passengers and light freight can be safely secured, by the use of light and elastic cars, on easy grades, on this kind of railway: heavy grades and heavy loads require a motion that should not, in order to be safe, exceed four or five miles an hour. It is purposed to harden the wooden rail, by a coating which appears to be effective for the purpose; but short iron plates, if required, can be secured upon this kind of rail by means of iron straps, which will allow of nothing like the expense and danger that occur from the common practice of securing rails by iron spikes driven into the cross ties of the road.

The third is a plan or arrangement of small pieces of wood and timber, by which the material of ships or other vessels may be made into a compacted mass, not likely to be broken asunder by ordinary obstructions. This plan will easily allow of an improvement very necessary for the safety of vessels of every class, by which any vessel liable by any casualty to have a hole stove through her bottom or side, may be divided into a series of apartments in such manner, that if the water bursts into one, the safety of the whole may not be endangered. This plan will also provide a safe sea vessel, requiring but a light draught of water; and in steamers, or in other vessels using steam as an auxiliary to navigation, a propeller can be exhibited, which, it is believed, on account of its simplicity and efficacy, will afford an instrument of navigation long wished for by practical ship builders.

In presenting the above modes of building for the consideration of your honorable body, your memorialist would respectfully ask, that they should be examined in connection with the advantages of a system of engineering, and mathematical calculation, that has been put in practice by himself. The value of this system can be best exhibited by its practical adaptation to the three several modes of building above referred to, as by it, as he believes, rail road surveys, architectural and naval designs, can be more rapidly, cheaply and effectively executed, than by any other system now in use.



That your memorialist would further represent that he is a native citizen of the United States, and has thought it was his duty, after maturing the above subjects, to present them first to the consideration of the government of his own country in preference to that of any other power; that entertaining an opinion that the important character of these subjects would warrant the special examination which he seeks for, your memorialist would respectfully ask that a committee of your honorable body be appointed to enquire concerning their practical utility; and if sufficient evidence shall be found to warrant their encouragement, to take such steps in relation thereto, as will best extend their advantages to our country at large; and your memorialist will ever pray, &c.

WM. J. CLOWES.

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Although I have forwarded an application to Congress, of which the above is a copy, I am not sanguine enough to believe that much attention will be given thereto, unless connected with some greater inducement than is presented by the application alone. As negative testimony in one's own favor is sometimes better than positive, I would observe that the several matters submitted as above, to the consideration of Congress and the public, do not proceed from any one of the numerous projectors, schemers, and inventors, that for no apparently useful purpose, daily crowd the steps of the Patent office, or fill the columns of our scientific journals; that during a large portion of my life, I have been surrounded by materials similar to those which compose the main part of our buildings; and that since my residence in the forest, I have had more leisure and opportunity for examining the several subjects with which I profess to be somewhat acquainted, than usually falls to the lot of those that are called scientific men. I would further mention that I have at no time of my life, been engaged in any speculative enterprises, as all the works with which I have been employed, have either had some practical object in view, or have been connected with some business or property, of which I have been in possession or called to take the charge.

I mention these circumstances, as upon them I ground my chief claims for public attention: for although they present no positive evidence in support of any thing I offer, yet they will show that I have been kept out of the way of mechanical and other similar infatuations that prevail throughout our country to an injurious and alarming extent; and am therefore able, as soon as proper encouragement is afforded me, to



put in immediate and successful operation all that I have at any time suggested for public or private enterprise.

In making the above remarks, to clear myself of the absurdity which undoubtedly will be brought against me, I do not feel disposed, in any manner, to conciliate the favor of those most disposed to bring the charge, by offering one word in favor of the many absurd and fantastic projects and speculations with which our country has for a few years past been disgraced: I say disgraced, because I consider this result has occurred, in every case where there has been a loss of capital upon any of our public works, or where any work either public or private fails to promote the object for which it is constructed. I would therefore unhesitatingly denounce any capitalist, financier, or engineer, as unfit for public employment, and as abusing the special trust reposed in him, who incurs the loss of a dollar, either in principal or in interest, or constructs any work which is not strictly consistent with the public utility. Upon this footing and according to this principle, I would offer all the projects which I have presented either for public or private consideration, for not one of them, however extensive the whole may be, need be made liable to the loss of a single dollar, either in principal or interest, or made subservient to any other policy, than that which conforms directly to the public good.

I may perhaps be told that my propositions are impracticable, because the experience of the past shows that they cannot be accomplished; and I would therefore answer, that our public funds, our public institutions and our public works afford no evidence that the persons who conduct them know anything about the principles by which they ought to be conducted; for until proper principles are established among us, that are acknowledged to come from the source of all authority and power, our movements, both public and private, will be as uncertain and inconsistent as the wind that blows; and we can expect nothing less than the loss, the ruin and premature decay that seem now to fall so often upon everything of a public nature about us. If any man of presumed good character among us, will assert that there are no such principles to be depended upon, with the certainty that I have asserted, I should be pleased to join issue with him, and show by his individual example the correctness of my assumptions; for as false principles always lead to foolish or wicked conduct, I have no doubt that my opponent, from the position that he takes, will exhibit the same kind of relationship between his principles and his practice, as is too often exhibited between the principles and practice of those who are engaged upon our public works.

In offering the above remarks, I would not assume any infallibility not common to our nature; but only allude to the course of general

conduct by which every man must stand or fall in the community of which he forms a part. Of my individual errors or mistakes, it is not necessary for the public to take cognizance, and I therefore would not intimate that I have any personal grievances or private rights to avenge or to contend for. All that I would offer, until assaulted in a way that would render personal defence necessary, will be in connection with the public measures and objects, which I have endeavored to introduce to public consideration and patronage. Commencing with propositions for the public good made before I was of age, and extending at least twenty years afterwards, there will, I am confident, be nothing found among all that I have proposed, that I now should hesitate to republish. Of my earliest written productions which I have in my possession, I shall probably select and publish some portions for no other reason than that they are as well matured as any that my riper years could have accomplished. Of my other writings, if any person into whose hands these pages should fall should have a part, I should be pleased that he would send them again to me; for it may save me from much labor and thought, that I might expend in attempting to repeat them, and not do as well as I had already done. If, however, any person having my letters or writings in his possession, thinks them deserving of ridicule or contempt, he is at liberty to publish them, provided he publish them fairly and without curtailment; but I would rather publish my own writings myself, if any of them were of interest enough to connect with my present work, and would cheerfully pay the postage upon any manuscript of my own that shall be forwarded me.

I have made the above remarks in order to intimate that I have been long engaged upon the subjects which are now referred to public attention; and have also endeavored to induce many persons engaged in various branches of business to lend me their co-operation. I have copied the following communication from the American Artisan, of New York, in order to show the progress which I had made in my plans of building, more than four years since. Previous to the publication of the communication which was about two years since, I had made an arrangement with the editor of the Artisan for a commencement of the Hartwood Politician in his paper; but no attention being given to my proposals by those most interested therein, I felt no interest towards continuing my connection with the Artisan, and my remarks were on that account shortly thereafter discontinued.

The communication being my own, I have thought proper, as may be seen, not only to amend the typographical errors of the original, but also to alter the structure of some of the sentences, as far as the same could be done without altering the original meaning.

## TO CARPENTERS AND MASONS IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

In the last number of the Artisan, I intimated that it was my intention to exhibit to the public a series of improvements, which had, in part, been tested at my place of residence. I have been induced to assume the heading of "Hartwood Politician" in the commencement of my proposed observations, as it gives the location of their authorship, and indicates that the remarks offered under this head will be extended to subjects of more importance in the science of political economy, than is usually presented in mechanical or scientific journals. This heading, also, will indicate the source from which these articles proceed, without rendering it necessary hereafter to attach the author's name thereto.

The principal object at present sought to be gained by the publication of my first numbers, is to secure the attention of a few practical mechanics toward the most obvious of these improvements, as they can, by results brought about by their own hands, assure themselves, with more certainty of the correctness of the principles upon which all these improvements are based, than can be afforded by the most flattering testimonials of any scientific association. I have addressed this number to Carpenters and Masons of New York, as they are particularly interested in that part of my course of improvements, which gives a plan for fire-proof buildings. I would say to them that there is sufficient evidence already in existence, to prove the correctness of all I have asserted, relative to this mode of building; sufficient, it might be supposed, to induce at least half a dozen carpenters and masons to join together and make what they might consider a fair experiment; a carpenter's shop, which all the combustible matter that usually abounds on such premises would not endanger, could be built in a short time, and a heavy pile of lumber could be put on the top thereof, without risking its stability. If this could be done, it might be safely inferred that there was at least one mode in the city by which buildings could be made both strong and incombustible at one half the cost now expended upon the perishable structures around us. Mechanics who are desirous of investigating this subject farther, with a view to their own interest as well as the good of the public, may learn the mode in which the necessary experiments may be conducted by applying to Mr. Fleet, Editor of the Artisan, at his office, 102 Nassau street. To show that the subject has been familiar with me for some years past, I subjoin part of a communication intended for a building association in the city of New-York; the plan, though drawn more than two years since, will yet exhibit the mode in which 150



families can be provided with comfortable dwellings on a plot of ground not exceeding eight New York or Brooklyn building lots. I should be willing to join any association of respectable individuals, for the purpose of building such an establishment, and have no doubt that the many advantages of the plan will give it sufficient respectability of character to overcome any reluctance which may be entertained against it, on account of its presumed cheapness. The building ought to belong to those that occupy it, and the right to lease and transfer the several dwellings therein can be made as effective as if each apartment had a separate building lot to itself. In the plan connected with the communication alluded to, there is represented in the upper story two large corridors or galleries, containing each about 3200 square feet, which being divided into two apartments, will afford each of the sexes their separate place for amusement or exercise. In addition to this are about 6000 feet of terrace roof, where, in fair weather, the inhabitants may promenade to their heart's content. The other advantages, besides cheapness and incombustibility, may be briefly shown under the following heads, as set forth in the above mentioned communication.

1. A complete system of ventilation, which may be regulated by each family to suit itself.

2. A full separation of each family after it closes its front door from every other in the establishment, and that under circumstances which allow of all necessary accommodations for domestic comfort within its own walls, without interfering or being interfered with by their neighbors.

3. The beds in the different apartments may be made cool and comfortable by the separate ventilation to which they are exposed as soon as turned up to their places; and thus the heat of the rooms during the day will not affect the beds when turned down to their places at night.

4. The system of privies is suspended by the use of an article called an Indispensable, which, besides a water closet, has a wash stand, shower bath, and sufficient room for robing and disrobing; the close stool therein is so much separated from the other parts of the establishment as to prevent all possibility of noisome exhalations therefrom.

5. Any family requiring a double set of apartments can have their additional room also, to themselves, by taking away a temporary partition in the rear of the two front doors at the head of each stair-way.

6. The plan of stairways being made so as to allow them to be constructed wider and more airy than are allowed in city dwellings of any class, the convenience of access to the several flats is greater, than by the usual mode of getting up city stairs; no staircase by the above plan

will be less than four feet wide, and no passage less than eight feet. The passages and stairs would be all well lighted.

W. J. CLOWES.

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At the time that the above communication was addressed to the carpenters and masons of the city of New-York, I had very little expectation that a single person, engaged in either of those branches of business, would respond to my invitation, and investigate my mode of building cheap and durable fire proof houses; the communication was rather to the theoretical carpenters and masons, who abound in every city and village; and who, although they know nothing about the business of building, generally contrive to get the whole control of it to themselves. Of the architects, carpenters, masons and other mechanics, with whom I am acquainted both in city and country, I am able to speak in general, with the utmost respect; but of their work, or rather the result of their work, I can speak in no terms of commendation. Taking the hundreds and thousands of flimsy erections which have recently been put up in the city of New-York, as a specimen of American workmanship, we must all admit that the art of building is in a very poor condition in our country; and that foreigners who read our newspapers must also believe that such is the case, from the number of buildings, especially factories and warehouses, that fall to the ground, from no apparent cause, but from the dead weight of the materials of which they are composed. When a building falls down in the city of New-York, and buries a few Irish voters under its ruins, there is a great out-cry for a time, not only on the part of the wives and children of the unfortunate victims, but also on the part of the press, which is sometimes so violent in its grief, as to wish almost every body hung that ever had a hand in putting up these murderous man traps. The storm soon blows over however, and the coroner's verdict, that nobody is to blame, is soon acquiesced in by the public; the truth is, every body is to blame for such results, who allows a miserable system like that used in the city of New-York, to stand one day longer without his earnest condemnation and active hostility: every body ought to be satisfied of the pernicious evils thereof, for every body is really interested, for should a slight shock of an earthquake ever take place in the city, these buildings which can scarcely now stand, with their own weight, will be falling by the thousand.

Having personally addressed myself heretofore to theoretical carpenters and masons without much effect, I intend hereafter, in the



Hartwood Politician, to direct myself to them through real mechanics, and shall request the assistance of the latter in putting some questions to their opponents which I think will induce them to quit their business; for I am confident, that as soon as these theoretical, or rather speculating, gentry find that the people are not only bold enough to question them about their misdoings, but to hang them too, if they deserve it, they will feel inclined to quit a business which not only brings disgrace upon our cities, but death in various forms and shapes. Were it not for the pest and presumption of pretended science, and of wicked and detestable speculation, I am confident we should not be called upon to witness these things; and I therefore feel it my duty to raise my voice against them. There is no more excuse for loss of lives under ordinary circumstances, when a building falls in New York, than there would be for a life lost by some one firing a loaded musket at random in the streets; the ball may hit somebody, or it may not; but if it does not, the man discharging the piece ought to be hung for his crime just as much as if his wickedness was fatal; and a building put up according to certain New York patterns, may fall on somebody and kill him, or it may not; it is the dangerous act of putting up such erections that constitutes the guilt, and should be punished immediately on commission, whether attended with fatal consequences or not; for in waiting for a building to fall, and kill its victims before the criminal builder can be tried and punished, we lose all chance for finding the guilty; and the verdict ought to be what it generally is, that there is nobody to blame.

In addition to the advantages already published in relation to my proposed modes of building, there is another which I would now advert to as of more importance, than even their quality of being fire proof. In all dwellings which are now built, there are no means provided to exclude dampness, or prevent infection from being introduced into the walls. Dampness, by the proposed modes, is entirely prevented; for, there being no material composing any part of the house that is an absorbent, there can be no tendency to collect moisture, either from the atmosphere by exposure thereto, or from the ground, by capillary attraction. In all dwellings that are now put up, the materials, such as stone, wood, lime and brick, are all absorbents, and will attract moisture from the air and the ground; and there is very little chance for remedying this evil in a house as at present built, except by keeping the apartments dry by means of stoves or fires. The most fatal evil that results from the present mode of building arises, no doubt, from the liability of the walls of a house to receive and retain infectious matter, which nothing will remove except frost or some disinfecting agent; but according to the mode which I have suggested, the mat-

terials of the whole house being non-absorbent, and the external coating thereof being hardened by a bituminous preparation, there is less liability for miasma or any infectious matter, to penetrate any part of the walls or floors of a house, than if the whole was composed of solid iron. For hospitals, for buildings in warm and moist situations, this plan is therefore of the utmost importance, and it is presumed if its merits were once allowed to be tested, that the system would thereafter be considered as indispensable.

With respect to my plan of railroads, I would say in addition to what is already said in my application to Congress, that I am unwilling to submit this mode to the consideration of ordinary engineers; for although I respect the character and conduct of all of them, much more than I do their immediate employers, yet it would be as appropriate to submit a question of law to a shoemaker, merely because he sits upon a bench, as to submit the wooden railroad system to the decision of ordinary railroad engineers or directors, who have never had any opportunity of learning anything about the nature and qualities of wood; the only things necessary to be decided in respect to this improvement are, first: whether the railway is likely to be permanent, without flaw or fracture, for all purposes to which it is to be applied: this question can best be answered by persons who know that pieces of wood can be so firmly put together, by fastenings of wood alone, as to allow no ordinary jar or vibration to separate them, and cannot be answered by persons who know nothing about such matters. The second is, whether the rails, subjected to the action of the wheels, and their flanges, will wear long enough to pay the cost of laying them down: this can be answered by saying that the rails, instead of being cut, or worn by the wheels to be used, will rather be smoothed and polished by them; and that with the kind of car and car-wheel referred to in my application, there is no doubt that a wooden railway with a light and divided traffic upon it, will last as long as an iron one does, under the concentrated weight of the locomotive which it is now considered necessary to put upon it. If these questions as to wooden rails can be satisfactorily answered, there can be no doubt that the mails, the freight and passengers of the world can be carried as rapidly and far more cheaply and safely by this conveyance than by any other mode of land carriage in use.

The mode by which this system could be adopted in the United States, would be for Congress under its authority to establish post-offices and post routes, to organize institutions for the purpose of carrying the mails both by land and water thro'out the Union; at the same time authority could be given to the district courts to appoint commissioners to lay out mail routes. The expense of laying out these routes ought not to be more than that necessary for common highways. The

business of telegraphing under the direction of the General Post-office Department, might be placed also in charge of the same institutions.

It may be supposed that by reason of my residence in the woods, I cannot be very conversant with either the theory or the practice of building ships or vessels. With theory I hope I may never be acquainted, for I believe that such knowledge is worse than useless; for what real benefit to mankind has ever arisen from the vast floods of nautical dissertations that the science of Europe has spread over the world? As to practice, although not now living on the seaboard, I am at no great distance in the interior; and although we have no ships or large craft among us, yet I defy the world to produce stronger boats than some of the people in the wooden world in which I live can put together. Our Sullivan county coast is a very rocky bound one, as almost every body knows; yet we have no breakers on our shores, for the reason that our boats never break to pieces upon them; our boats being made so strong that their bottoms are generally worn out by striking against the rocks, before they begin to leak. I allude to the stone boats or drags in use in our country, for hauling stone, and have brought them forward in order to show that the principle by which they are fastened together can be made effective towards fastening larger vessels. There is no iron in the smaller vessel, nor ought there to be much in the larger; for it is owing, in my opinion, to the superabundance of iron, as it exists in the shape of large bolts, bars and braces, that causes many a vessel to go to the bottom much sooner than if wood alone for the main fastenings was used. I believe that wood was intended by Providence to carry man from coast to coast, and that the materials of which ships were built in ancient times, would be much better, if now used, than anything that proceeds from modern science in modern days.

To prevent any improper inference arising from my present residence, I would observe, that although I have lived many years in the woods of Sullivan County, I have passed some years also upon Long Island, of which I am a native, and have spent much of my time on its Atlantic coast; I therefore have had some chance for knowing that there is great room for improvement, both in the building and in the navigation of vessels. Among the marine disasters, of which I have been a witness, the loss of the Mexico, which occurred in the winter of 1836 and 1837, has been the most prominent, and has doubtless had its influence in inducing me to prevent, as far as in my power, the recurrence of similar scenes. I mention these circumstances, not because I would have it inferred that by reason of my living on the sea-coast, I am necessarily the better acquainted with the art of firmly securing timbers together, but that I wish it understood that I know



there are thousands and tens of thousands of ship carpenters and seafaring men, that reserve no better fate for a ship that strikes a rock or a sand bank, but to thump to pieces upon it; when, in truth, there is no more reason for a vessel under such circumstances being broken asunder, than there is for a Sullivan County stone-boat to break apart by being pitched over a precipice; the fate and durability of each kind of vessel ought to be alike, and no ship ought to be considered as sea-worthy unless her timbers would hold together long enough to allow her bottom to be first worn out by the chafing and grinding of the rocks and sand banks, among which she might be cast.

In connection with the system of engineering and mathematical calculation, referred to in my application to Congress, I would now offer but a very few remarks. The advantages of the system can best be ascertained by its practical application, and to such a mode of testing its efficiency, I would respectfully refer any person who is sincerely desirous of learning more about this important subject. There is not the least uncertainty about its utility; and as to its simplicity, I would observe, that it is my intention to reduce the whole system to the capacity of any boys of fifteen or sixteen years of age, who may be induced to become members of the self-supporting schools, which I am desirous of establishing throughout our country. The system referred to will not allow of the errors or mistakes occurring in the ordinary modes of surveying or civil engineering, and the doctrine of curves, as can be seen, is also completely mastered by it.

The ways and means by which a general post-office system throughout the United States, as referred to in my prospectus, may be cheaply adopted, may be seen by referring to my remarks upon the subject of railroads: and the institutions referred to, as applicable to these ends, are the self-supporting schools, which are treated of in my Newburgh letters. In respect to the applicability of my remarks to the condition of the people of Newburgh, I would briefly say, that having referred to certain principles or indication of principles, as a guide for their action, I have referred to subjects which ought not to admit of any doubt or discussion; for principles, being in reality institutions of Divine appointment, and not of man's invention, cannot be made liable to any fluctuation or change. My views therefore relative to the disposition of Washington Head Quarters, I think will be found to be as correct as if my suggestions had been followed throughout; and I believe, notwithstanding all that has been done, that I can hereafter safely refer to the contrast exhibited between my suggestions and those ultimately adopted as to full proof of the correctness of my views in relation to ancient mementoes and revolutionary relics. I would further ask the especial attention of the people of Newburgh to the several subjects of improve-

ment which I have presented to the public, as I consider it clearly conducive to their particular interest to do so; for nothing in the way of plank roads can bring the business to their place, which can be brought about by the encouragement of the several systems of building which I have recommended. If there is any folly in the matter, it will be found that it is theirs for rejecting my propositions, and not mine for proposing them.

Wishing to make the future numbers of the Hartwood Politician as satisfactory and useful to its patrons as it can be made by my efforts, I intend in the second and third of its numbers, to set forth and illustrate certain important principles, by which the general course of my proposed work may be easily ascertained. The construction of the term principles which has been given above allowing of no discussion or argument concerning them, I shall have nothing further to do, when these general truths or principles are set forth, but to draw inferences or conclusions from them. If errors of my own occur in my works, as they undoubtedly will, I shall be happy to admit and correct them, whether detected by myself or by others; but with respect to principles, or what I consider such, I shall feel myself bound to adhere with all the strictness which becomes their solemn import. I hope, therefore, that all my readers will always keep up the distinction between my principles and my conclusions, and not class my failures with subjects of which it may be truly said that they have no capacity to fail.

Among the principles which I hope to place satisfactorily before my readers, are those which regulate the rights and duties of females, as members of the state; and others which define the nature and uses of property. I have found it necessary to refer to the first mentioned topic on account of its connection with the subject of self-supporting schools, it being my intention to recommend that the educational or rather the literary pursuits of such establishments shall be chiefly entrusted to females. The necessity of examining the nature of property arises from the kind of education which it is proposed to be afforded in such schools, for it is not any given quantity of arithmetic, geology or any other science that is proposed to be taught; but the teaching proposed will commence immediately with the art of getting an honest living; and the nature of property for this important purpose should of course be clearly understood. The chief difference between this and other systems is to make the ordinary sciences of secondary rather than of primary interest.

10-225-1



Having given to my readers all my original work which was published in 1850, I would further say in addition that in regard to the discussion of certain important principles which were proposed in the annexed number, to be investigated in the second and third numbers of my work, I have made a change so far, as now to propose that these principles be hereafter illustrated and explained, in successive series of numbers ; of which series, this first treatise is to be classed as the beginning of the first.

To connect this first number with the second, I close my remarks with an address,

*To Tavern keepers, and all other persons interested in the establishment and continuance of good Taverns, throughout the United States :*

As no action, or concert of action, has been publicly agreed upon, by any of our people who are opposed to the adoption of the Maine Liquor Law, I have prepared four numbers of my paper for the purpose of showing the necessity of some such action : the first of these four numbers being already before its patrons, I would only say, concerning the other three, that they are principally occupied in investigating the true origin of the intemperance that prevails in our country.

By these numbers I am also prepared to show in what way the inn-keepers of our country as a body have been most unjustly and wrongfully abused for evils which ought with more propriety to be charged to their temperance opponents ; and have entered upon an examination of the general origin of all political evils, in order that I might show my readers that for the origin of intemperance and its accompanying evils, they must look into causes very different from any which are under the power or control of tavern keepers, or of any other persons who are engaged in the traffic and sale of ardent spirits.

To make my future works of any utility to the public, I have felt it my duty to show by what constitutional and legal manner both State and Congressional legislation might properly be brought to bear upon abuses of intoxicating liquors, and in so doing, it may be seen that I am not like many of the opponents of the Maine Liquor Law, who profess to believe that our State Legislatures have no power to legislate upon the subject.

A few persons of my acquaintance, having signed a subscription paper, of which the following is a copy, I present this paper to the public as a precedent in order to exhibit the nature of the support which I wish to rely upon in order to secure the continuance of my work :

“ WILLIAM J. CLOWES, having commenced the publication of a series of four pamphlets in relation to the illegality and

unconstitutionality of the Maine Liquor Law, we whose names are subscribed hereto, do contribute towards such publication in the several amounts written by us, opposite to our names ; to be repaid in pamphlets at the customary price of sale."

I offer a copy of my first subscription paper with this address, because I believe that the Temperance excitement, although professedly directed against the use or abuse of intoxicating liquors, is in reality intended to bring about the discontinuance of all our taverns ; and because I believe it is highly important that some steps should be taken to oppose the insane movements of our temperance advocates, who under pretence of destroying the common propensity for ardent spirits, would at the same time, blindly destroy the main facilities of trade and commerce. Instead, however, of proposing "a Carson League" or other illegal proceedings of the kind, I offer in the first place for public consideration, the establishment of a paper, to be devoted to the dissemination of sound constitutional law : this may be done by a patronage of the Hartwood Politician, according to the above precedent ; and all sums of a dollar and upwards forwarded to the publisher or his agents, will be promptly repaid in pamphlets according to one uniform price of sale.

I consider the license or excise law of the State of New York, to be altogether at variance with the spirit of our general constitution, which gives to Congress the power to lay and collect excises, which shall be uniform throughout the United States : Congress having also the power to provide for the general welfare of the United States, and to regulate commerce between these several States, have, of course, the power to regulate all public houses, if they are for the benefit of the internal commerce of the country ; and with the above power over excises, our general government might if it would, prevent all difficulties that have existed among us, by reason of improper State legislation, in relation to our Inns or Taverns : the right and duty of Congress to legislate upon these important subjects, will be exhibited in my forthcoming numbers.

I have made the above remarks with a view of requesting our tavern keepers as a body, to become agents for the Hartwood Politician ; and in order to secure their co-operation, I would further inform them that it will be edited by a Counsellor at Law, who besides other qualifications for this office, has had better opportunities for an acquaintance with constitutional law, than is possessed by lawyers in general.

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